

RANDY WIERSMA

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Dear Honorable Judge Jackson,

I am a younger brother of the defendant David Wiersma, and am VP of Sales for Heidelberg USA where I have been employed for 36 years. I have known and looked up to Dave all my life. While he is 6 years older than I am we became quite close through my teenage years and remain so today.

My impression of Dave formed over these many decades is that he is a leader, compassionate and a man of integrity. He is always willing to lend a helping hand and offer a word of encouragement.

He along with a friend volunteered to coach an 8th grade basketball team when a coach withdrew at the last minute. He was able to take a team that was almost winless and help them to compete at a level that they didn't know they had the ability too. Many years later these young men still acknowledge the impact that Dave had on their lives.

He's also been a leader among men both at work and recreation. At work he has traveled throughout the U.S and England, his responsibilities included quality control during Nuclear power plant maintenance; sometimes needing to make difficult and unpopular decisions to delay a project due to proper procedures not being followed that could pose a safety risk over time.

In the community, he directs food resources that are destined to be discarded toward a nonprofit in Blue Island, IL; the Lifehouse Group.

I respect that a law was broken and while ignorance of the law is not a defense, I do believe that Dave didn't understand he was breaking the law at that moment.

I ask that you exercise leniency in your sentencing decision, and that Dave would not spend any time incarcerated. This entire ordeal has created tremendous stress in his life, loss of income and he regrets the events of that day.

Sincerely yours,

Randy Wiersma